DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 400 230 SP 036 896

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TITLE	Handbook of Research on Teacher Education. Second Edition.
INSTITUTION	Association of Teacher Educators, Reston, Va.
REPORT NO	ISBN-0-02-897194-9
PUB DATE	Mar 96
NOTE	1,190p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Macmillan Library Reference USA, Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019 ($75).
PUB TYPE	Collected Works - General (020) -- Information Analyses (070)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	Educational Philosophy; *Educational Research; Elementary Secondary Education; Higher Education; *Professional Development; *Research Reports; *Teacher Education Curriculum; *Teacher Education Programs; Teacher Educators; Teaching (Occupation); *Theory Practice Relationship
IDENTIFIERS	*Reform Efforts

ABSTRACT

Research-based reform continues to strike a balance between the academic theories and classroom realities. This handbook provides a set of guidelines for the preparation of skilled instructors at all levels and career stages of teaching; establishes a curriculum for teacher education; and offers a forum for discussion in the field among teachers, teacher educators, and administrators. The volume seeks to balance the transitory nature of a career in education with the long-term commitment such a career entails, and examines the need for teacher education programs that would not only prepare instructors for new challenges but would provide them with the knowledge and skills to develop their professional careers and adapt their educational philosophies to the latest scholastic trends. In 48 chapters, leading authorities in the field of teacher education provide an approach to research-based reform and a pivotal analysis of professional growth. The handbook is organized into the following seven sections: (1) teacher education as a field of study; (3) recruitment, selection and initial preparation; (3) contextual influences on teacher education; (4) teacher education curriculum; (5) continuing professional growth, development and assessment; (6) diversity and equity issues; and (7) emerging directions in teacher education. (LL)

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